KC-130J

DESCRIPTION

The KC-130 is a versatile multi-engine, tactical aerial refueler/transport which supports all six functions of Marine aviation. It is the only long-range assault support capability organic to the Marine Corps. The KC-130J with its increase in speed (+21 percent) and range (+35 percent), features an improved air-to-air refueling system and state-of-the-art flight station. The flight station includes 2 head up displays (HUDs), night vision lighting and augment crew station and fully integrated digital avionics architecture. An Allison AE 2100D3 propulsion system with full authority digital electronic controls, Dowty R391 advanced technology six bladed propeller system, and 250 knot cargo ramp and door complete the package that will provide the MAGTF commander with a state-of-the-art, multi-mission, tactical aerial refueler/transport well into the next century. The Marine Corps desires to replace its aging active fleet of KC-130Fs and Rs with the new KC-130J.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE: FYOO FYO1 *Quantity:* 1 2

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The KC-130 provides both fixed-wing and helicopter tactical in-flight refueling, rapid ground refueling of aircraft or tactical vehicles, assault air transport of air landed or air delivered personnel, supplies and equipment, command and control augmentation, pathfinder, battlefield illumination, tactical aero-medical evacuation, and tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel (TRAP) support. This force multiplier is well suited to the mission needs of the forward deployed MAGTF. The KC-130J will bring increased capability and mission flexibility to the planning table with its satellite communications system, survivability enhancements, night systems, enhanced rapid ground refueling, variable speed refueling paradrogue, and improved aircraft systems. Greater reliability and maintainability, coupled with lower operating and support costs, will result in lower life cycle costs for the KC-130J.

PROGRAM STATUS

The KC-130J is a commercial -off-the-shelf aircraft currently in production. Initial delivery of the KC-130J to the Marine Corps is anticipated during 2000.

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

Lockheed Martin